the Question Hour. हमेशा के लिए भूल जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप यह भूल जाइए कि क्वेश्चन ऑवर को मैं कभी भी पोस्टपोन करूंगा, नंबर एक। ...(**व्यवधान**)... पचौरी जी, मेरी सुनिए, आप आरग्यू मत कीजिए। आपका जो रूल है ...(**व्यवधान**)... देखिए। आप मुझसे जो बात करके आए हैं, उसके अनुसार नहीं चल रहे हैं। आपने मुझसे कहा था ...(**व्यवधान**)... वह रूल बुक ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप बैठ जाइए। यह रूल बुक मैंने देखी हुई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Nothing will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Question Hour is over ...(*Interruptions*)... प्रश्नकाल समाप्त हुआ। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

National Highways in Assam

*221. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned any amount for construction and widening of various National Highways in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds likely to be released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 2002-2003, 44 improvement works including widening amounting to Rs. 146 crore have been sanctioned for the development of various National Highways in the State of Assam.

(c) During 2002-2003, an amount of Rs. 149.37 crore has been allocated for the development of National Highways in the State of Assam.

Separate account for different services

*222. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has ordered phone companies to maintain separate account for different services they provide;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TRAI has taken any steps to ensure prevention of cross-subsidisation by phone companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has notified "Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Service Providers (Maintenance of Books of Accounts and other Documents) Rules, 2002" under which telecom service providers are required to maintain books of accounts to reflect service-wise operational expenses, revenues and fixed assets.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In accordance with the provisions of Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999, all operators are required to report tariffs to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). This requirement provides an opportunity to TRAI to monitor the tariffs with respect to cross subsidisation, predatory pricing, etc. TRAI intervenes on tariffs either *suo moto* or on the basis of a reference to it from any affected party on specified grounds including cross subsidisation. Further, TRAI has also formulated a System on Accounting Separation (SAS) which would assist in identifying cross subsidisation practices.

Status of SSIs

*223. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the small scale industries, so far as production and employment generation are concerned;

(b) whether the reforms process has weakend the small scale industry sector; and

(c) if not, how the structural reforms have strengthened these industries so far as their economic viability is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The present status of Small Scale Industries (SSI) in terms